THE KANE
EXPERIMENTAL FOREST

The Kane Experimental Forest is a 1,737-acre tract in the Allegheny National Forest, set aside for research. The Experimental Forest is located about 7 miles southeast of Kane, Pa. It may be reached from the Kane-Highland Corners road or from Dahoga on Route 219.

The forest is the field headquarters of the Allegheny Plateau Research Center of the U. S. Forest Service's Northeastern Forest Experiment Station. Ashbel F. Hough is the forester in charge.

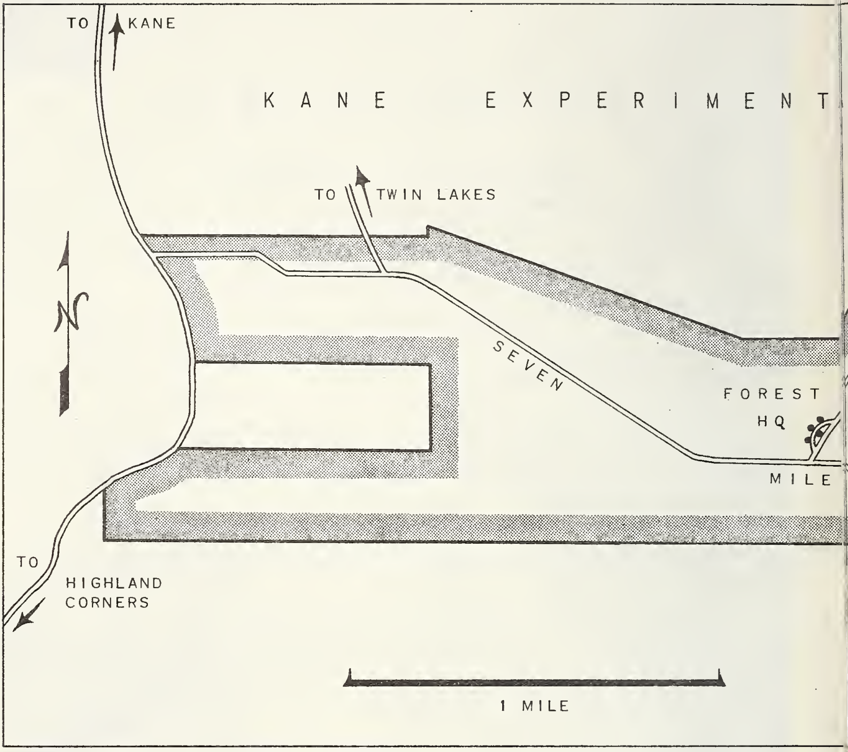
THE HARVEST-CUTTING PLOTS

A series of demonstration plots has recently been set up on the Kane Experimental Forest to show four different methods of harvesting second-growth Allegheny hardwood-hemlock stands.

Purpose of plots The demonstration consists of four blocks of 5 acres each, which were cut in 1952-53 to illustrate four different methods of harvesting a 60-year-old second-growth forest. The cuttings range from a light partial cutting to clear-cutting. Thus the plots show degrees in intensity of forest management.

Show-windows The demonstration area is expected to be of interest both to the general public and to professional foresters. To the public the plots are forestry show-windows, providing living examples of immediate and long-term results of conservation vs. drastic forest harvests--the difference between investing your capital wisely or spending it all at once without thought for the future.

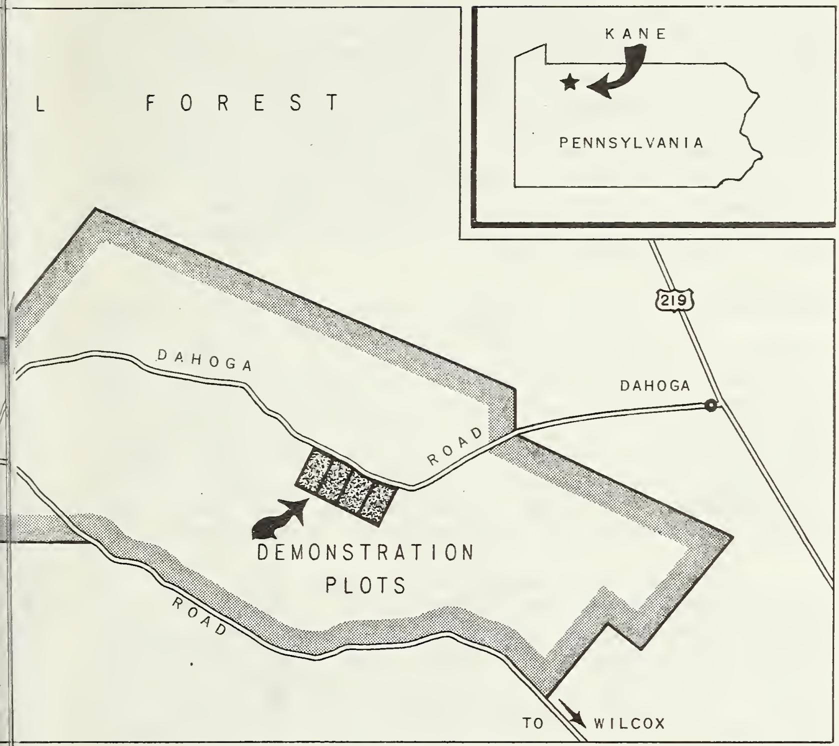
To the professional forester these plots provide a demonstration at one spot of forest-management practices



that differ greatly in concept and technical details as well as in economic returns. They show how different cutting practices affect such technical matters as growing stock, cutting cycles, stand composition, and timber quality.

CUTTING PRACTICES

Light partial cutting This kind of cutting is used to build up and maintain the greatest amount and best quality of timber the soil and climate can produce. Trees to be cut and trees to be left are selected by the forester with careful regard for future harvests on a short cutting cycle (5 years). Where necessary, inferior



species are weeded out as an investment for the better stand of the future. A growing stock of the best black cherry is left to produce high-value veneer logs. In logging, special care is taken to reduce damage to the standing trees and to protect watershed values. Light partial cutting can be applied on accessible tracts handy to good markets and where the reserved trees grow well under the treatment.

Medium partial cutting This practice leaves a forest growing stock of desirable species, ample for fairly fast growth in volume and quality. Trees are marked for cutting or leaving. Another cut can be made in 10 or 15 years. Logging is done with care. Culls and weed trees are removed, but less intensively than in light partial cutting.